

**A Summary of Wetland Incentive Programs
in
Indiana**

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Table of Contents

Federal Incentive Programs

Direct

Conservation Reserve Program.....	1
Debt Restructure Program.....	2
Emergency Watershed Protection - Floodplain Easement Program.....	3
Environmental Quality Incentives Program.....	4
Farmable Wetlands Project.....	5
Partners For Wildlife	6
Wetlands Reserve Program.....	7

Indirect

Federal tax benefits for land trust donations	8
Forestry Incentives Program.....	9
National Natural Landmark Program.....	10
Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program (Public Law 83-566)	11

State Incentive Programs

Appalachian Clean Streams Initiative	12
Classified Wildlife Habitat Act.....	13
Clean Water Act, Section 319, Nonpoint Source Management Program.....	14
Forest Land Enhancement Program.....	15
Forest Stewardship Program.....	16
Indiana Classified Forest Program.....	17
Lake and River Enhancement Program.....	18
Natural Area Registry	19
State Nature Preserve Dedication.....	20
Wildlife Habitat Cost-Share Project.....	21

Private/Local Incentive Programs

Blue River Project.....	22
Indiana Tree Farm.....	23
Southern Lake Michigan Rim.....	24
Tippecanoe River Project.....	25
Upper St. Joseph River Project.....	26
Wildlife At Work.....	27

FEDERAL INCENTIVE PROGRAMS

DIRECT RESTORATIONS

Program: Incentive
Level: Federal

Name of Program: Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

Purpose: CRP offers long-term rental payments and cost-share assistance to establish permanent vegetative cover on certain types of cropland.

Funding Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Date of Inception: 1985 Food Security Act (as amended)

Target Lands/Owners: Cropland that is highly erodible, contributing to a serious water quality problem, or is considered environmentally sensitive.

Application Process: See local Farm Services Agency office or local Agriculture Service Center

Contact Person: Ron Birt
USDA Farm Services Agency
5981 Lakeside Blvd.
Indianapolis, IN 46278
Ph: (317) 290-3030 Ext. 205
Fax: (317) 290-3030

Comments: By converting environmentally sensitive areas to permanent grass and tree cover, soil erosion is reduced and both water quality and wildlife habitat are improved. A variety of practices are encouraged on CRP acres including planting native grasses, establishing forest stands, creating wildlife habitat, restoring wetlands, and developing shallow water areas for wildlife.

Program: Incentive
Level: Federal

Name of Program: Debt Restructure Program

Purpose: To protect important resources (wetlands, riparian areas, natural areas, and other wildlife habitat) through the acquisition of conservation easements from USDA Farm Service Agency (FmHA) borrowers, and to provide debt relief for those borrowers.

Funding Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Date of Inception: 1994

Target Lands/Owners: Farm Service Agency (FmHA) borrowers. All lands are generally eligible, but emphasis is placed on important resources as described under “purpose.”

Application Process: Contact local FSA office

Contact Person: C. Brent Kerns
Farm Service Agency
5975 Lakeside Blvd.
Indianapolis, IN 46278
Ph: (317) 290-3112
Fax: (317) 290-3024

Comments: This program has not received much support from FSA and has had very limited use in Indiana. The value of any land enrolled in this program is deducted from a borrower’s loan balance. A perpetual easement is placed on the land enrolled.

Program: Incentive
Level: Federal

Name of Program: Emergency Watershed Program (EWP) - Floodplain Easement Program

Purpose: To purchase permanent easements for high risk lands subject to repeated flood damage where crop loss, building loss, and high repair costs make it appropriate to establish an easement rather than implementing a traditional EWP construction approach.

Funding Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Date of Inception: 1996 Farm Bill (Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996, Public Law 104-127) as amended

Target Lands/Owners: NRCS may purchase EWP easements on any floodplain lands that have been impaired within the last 12 months or that have a history of repeated flooding (i.e., flooded at least two times during the past 10 years). Purchases are based upon established priorities. Landowner applications for the program far exceed funding. NRCS maintains a list of easement offers that meet basic eligibility criterion at the time of application. These offers continue to be eligible pending availability of funding.

Application Process: See local Natural Resources Conservation Service office or local Agricultural Service Center

Contact Person: Dwayne Howard
Natural Resources Conservation Service
6013 Lakeside Blvd.
Indianapolis, IN 46278
Ph: (317) 290-3200 ext. 386
Fax: (317) 290-3225

Comments: Floodplain easements restore, protect, maintain, and enhance the functions of the floodplain; conserve natural values including fish and wildlife habitat, water quality, flood water retention, ground water recharge, and open space; reduce long-term federal disaster assistance; and safeguard lives and property from floods, drought, and the products of erosion.

Program: Incentive
Level: Federal

Name of Program: Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

Purpose: A voluntary incentive program to provide technical and financial assistance to landowners for establishing conservation practices to protect soil and water quality.

Funding Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Date of Inception: 1996 Farm Bill

Target Lands/Owners: Assistance is targeted to livestock related natural resource problems and other locally identified conservation priorities.

Application Process: See local Natural Resources Conservation Service office or local Agricultural Service Center.

Contact Person: Dwayne Howard
Natural Resources Conservation Service
6013 Lakeside Blvd.
Indianapolis, IN 46278
Ph: (317) 290-3200 ext. 386
Fax: (317) 290-3225

Comments:

Program: Incentive
Level: Federal

Name of Program: Farmable Wetlands Project (FWP)

Purpose: Restoring wetlands will reduce downstream flood damage, improve surface and groundwater quality, and recharge groundwater supplies. Wetlands provide vital habitat for migratory birds and many wildlife species, including threatened and endangered species, and provide recreational opportunities such as bird watching and hunting.

Funding Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Date of Inception: FWP was authorized by the fiscal year 2001 agricultural appropriations act, section 1102.

Target Lands/Owners: The original FWP Program was a six- state (Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota) voluntary pilot program to restore up to 500,000 acres of farmable wetlands and associated buffers through the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). The 2002 Farm Bill expanded the Farmable Wetlands Pilot Program to 1 million acres and to all states, and redefining eligible land to include a fixed cropping history requirement four out of the prior six years.

Application Process: See local Farm Service Agency office or local Agricultural Service Center

Contact Person: Dwayne Howard
Natural Resources Conservation Service
6013 Lakeside Blvd.
Indianapolis, IN 46278
Ph: (317) 290-3200 ext. 386
Fax: (317) 290-3225

Comments: Offers are accepted on a continuous signup basis and are automatically accepted provided the acreage and the producer meet certain eligibility requirements. Eligible acreage includes farmed and prior converted wetlands that have been impacted by farming activities. The maximum acreage for enrollment of wetlands and buffers is 40 acres per tract. A producer may enroll multiple wetlands and associated buffers on a tract as long as the total acreage does not exceed 40 acres.

Program: Incentive
Level: Federal

Name of Program: Partners for Fish & Wildlife

Purpose: To restore wetlands, prairie, bottomland forests and other habitats for migratory birds and Federal Listed Species on private lands. USFWS pays up to 100% of the cost of restoring these habitats. Landowner must sign a minimum 10-year agreement to keep the area as restored. Landowner retains all ownership rights.

Funding Source: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and numerous partners

Date of Inception: 1988

Target Lands/Owners: Lands that were formerly wetland, prairie, bottomland hardwoods or other habitats. All private landowners are eligible to participate.

Application Process: Contact USFWS Bloomington Field Office at 812/334-4261. USFWS personnel will make an on-site evaluation of the property with the landowner. Lands that are determined to be eligible for the program will be scheduled for restoration by USFWS.

Contact Person: Jeff Kiefer
620 S. Walker St.
Bloomington, IN 47403
Ph: (812) 334-4261 ext. 212
Fax: (812) 334-4273
Email: Jeffery_Kiefer@fws.gov

Comments: This program has been highly successful and very popular with landowners. Over 1500 projects have been completed statewide.

Program: Incentive
Level: Federal

Name of Program: Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP)

Purpose: A voluntary program offering interested farmers a chance to receive payments for restoring and protecting wetlands on their property.

Funding Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Date of Inception: 1985 Food Security Act (as amended)

Target Lands/Owners: Eligible lands include restorable wetland areas that have been used intensively for cropping and forage production. Limited areas of natural wetland, plus non-wetland areas needed to buffer the wetland from disturbance or to establish reasonable field boundaries, may be included.

Application Process: See local Natural Resources Conservation Service office or local Agricultural Service Center

Contact Person: Dwayne Howard
Natural Resources Conservation Service
6013 Lakeside Blvd.
Indianapolis, IN 46278
Ph: (317) 290-3200 ext. 386
Fax: (317) 290-3225

Comments: NRCS obtains long-term conservation easements from participating landowners to maintain the area as a wetland. NRCS helps determine eligibility and provides technical assistance for restoring, protecting, and managing the wetland. The landowner controls public access and use of the land. Acceptable uses of the land may include hunting, fishing, and educational opportunities.

FEDERAL INCENTIVE PROGRAMS

INDIRECT RESTORATIONS

Program: Incentive
Level: Federal

Name of Program: Federal tax benefits for land trust donations.

Information for this program was not obtained.

Contact: Internal Revenue Service
800-829-1040

Program: Incentive
Level: Federal

Name of Program: Forestry Incentives Program (FIP)

Purpose: To increase the nation's supply of timber products.

Funding Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Date of Inception: 1978 Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act

Target Lands/Owners: Private individuals, groups, or associations who own non-industrial private forest land capable of producing industrial wood crops. High priority is given to planting trees on marginal cropland.

Application Process: See local Natural Resources Conservation Service office, local Agriculture Service Center, or IDNR District Forester.

Contact Person: Dwayne Howard
Natural Resources Conservation Service
6013 Lakeside Blvd.
Indianapolis, IN 46278
Ph: (317) 290-3200 ext. 386
Fax: (317) 290-3225

Comments: **THIS PROGRAM ENDS ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2002.**

It is being replaced by the Forest Land Enhancement Program administered by the U. S. Forest Service, through the IDNR Division of Forestry.

Program: Incentive
Level: Federal

Name of Program: National Natural Landmarks (NNL) Program

Purpose: It is the goal of the program to identify, recognize, and encourage the protection of sites containing the best remaining examples of ecological and geological components of the nation's landscape. Landmarks are designated on both public and private land, with the program designed to have the concurrence of the owner or administrator.

Funding Source: The program is funded by the National Park Service at level to ensure some staff time is made available to the Washington and Field Office levels.

Date of Inception: The program was established by the Secretary of the Interior in 1962, under authority of the Historic Sites Act of 1935 (16 U.S.C. 461-467), and administered by the National Park Service.

Target Lands/Owners: A National Natural Landmark is a nationally significant natural area. To be nationally significant, a site must be one of the best examples of a type of biotic community or geologic feature in its physiographic province. The United States, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and the Pacific Trust Territories were divided into 33 natural regions of physiographic provinces. Studies and other means, including nomination are used to identify potential sites.

Application Process: Scientists are contracted by the National Park Service or owners to gather information to comparatively evaluate a site in question against similar sites. Evaluation reports are peer reviewed by other scientists and by NPS staff. The director of NPS recommends qualified sites to the Secretary of the Interior for designation.

Has program been evaluated? How? The program has been evaluated by the National Park Service, and changes periodically made; by the Office of Inspector General, and by public comment.

Contact Person: Michael Gallagher
National Park Service
1709 Jackson St.
Omaha, NE 68102
Ph: (402) 221-3418
Fax: (402) 221-3461

Comments: The moratorium on new designations was lifted on May 12, 1999, but no new designation have been made since 1987.

Program: Incentive
Level: Federal

Name of Program: Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program (Public Law 83-566)

Purpose: PL-566 is intended to a) prevent damage from erosion, floodwater, and sediment, b) further the conservation, development, utilization and disposal of water, and c) further the conservation and proper utilization of land.

Funding Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Date of Inception: 1954 Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Program Act (Public Law 83-566)

Target Lands/Owners: Local organizations

Application Process: See local Natural Resources Conservation Service office or local Agricultural Service Center

Contact Person: Dwayne Howard
Natural Resources Conservation Service
6013 Lakeside Blvd.
Indianapolis, IN 46278
Ph: (317) 290-3200 ext. 386
Fax: (317) 290-3225

Comments: PL-566 provides for technical, financial, and credit assistance by the USDA to local organizations representing the people living in small watersheds. Practices which are eligible for cost-sharing include flood prevention, recreational development, ground water recharge, and fish and wildlife development.

STATE INCENTIVE PROGRAMS

Program: Incentive
Level: State

Information provided by: Jim Metzger, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Reclamation

Name of Program: Appalachian Clean Streams Initiative (ACSI)

Purpose: To improve water quality in streams adversely impacted by acidic drainage from abandoned coal mines.

Funding Source: U.S. Department of the Interior - Office of Surface Mining
IDNR - Division of Reclamation
Landowner Contribution (In-kind or direct)

Date of Inception: Fall 1994

Target Lands/Owners: All landowners of southwestern Indiana (the State's coal region)

Involvement Process: Contact Representatives of local RC&D or participate in citizen's groups that interact with RC&D. Current projects are funded through Sycamore Trails and Four Rivers RC&Ds.

Contact Person:	Jim Metzger RTM Supervisor IDNR - Division of Reclamation RR 2, Box 129 Jasonville, IN 47438 Ph: (812) 665-2207	William Beard Sycamore Trails RC&D 1007 Mill Pond Court, Suite B Greencastle, IN 46135-8024 Ph: (765) 653-9785 Fax: (765) 653-9455
	Andrew Gilmore, Director OSMRE - Indianapolis Field Office Minton-Capehart Building 575 N. Pennsylvania Ave. Indianapolis, IN 46204 Ph: (317) 226-6166	David Elgin Four Rivers RC&D 112 South Lakeview Drive Petersburg, IN 47567-9040 Ph: (812) 354-6808 Fax: (812) 354-2785

Program: Incentive
Level: State

Information provided by: Gary Langell, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Fish and Wildlife

Name of Program: Classified Wildlife Habitat Act

Purpose: To reduce habitat loss on private land by encouraging landowners to develop or save existing wildlife habitat.

Funding Source: Dedicated Fish and Wildlife Fund

Date of Inception: 1979

Target Lands/Owners: Landowners of grasslands, shrublands, wetlands, woodlands less than 10 acres, and riparian areas.

Application Process: Contact District Wildlife Biologist or Indianapolis Office for a free land inspection and application form.

Has program been evaluated? Yes. **How?** Through Annual Report form required to be completed annually by program participants.

Contact Person: Gary Langell, Private Lands Program Coordinator
553 E. Miller Drive
Bloomington, IN 47401
Ph: (812) 334-1137
Fax: (812) 339-4807

Comments: The incentives for landowners to classify their lands are: 1) the reduction of the assessed value of classified lands to \$1 per acre for property tax purposes; 2) free technical assistance and advice.

Land qualifies for classified wildlife habitat if: 1) it contains at least 15 acres of which less than 10 acres are woodland; 2) it contains a good stand of natural or planted trees, shrubs, and grasses capable of supporting wildlife species; 3) it does not contain a

dwelling or other usable building; 4) no part lies within a licensed shooting preserve.

Program: Incentive
Level: State

Name of Program: Clean Water Act, Section 319, Nonpoint Source Management Program
Administered by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM)

Purpose: To control pollution from nonpoint sources to the navigable waters of the State
and to improve the quality of such waters.

Funding Source: EPA grant money

Date of Inception: February 4, 1987

Target Lands/Owners: Government entities, universities, or nonprofit organizations.

Application Process: Grant application package and information available on IDEM's, Watershed
Management Section website: www.state.in.us/idem/owm/planbr/wsm/index.html
Application deadline is October 1.

Contact Person: Section Chief
Indiana Department of Environmental Management
Office of Water Quality, Watershed Management Section
100 North Senate Avenue, Room 1255
P.O. Box 6015
Indianapolis, IN 46206-6015
Ph: (317)233-8803
Fax: (317)232-8406

Comments: Grant money from EPA is used to fund projects to control and clean up nonpoint
source pollution. Some constructed wetlands and wetland restoration projects
have been funded through this program.

Program: Incentive
Level: State

Information provided by: Dan Ernst, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry

Name of Program: Forest Land Enhancement Program

Purpose: A cost-share incentive program with reimbursement of up to 75% of various forest stewardship conservation practices. The program is open to Indiana forest landowners with at least ten acres. Among the eligible projects are: 1) forest restoration tree plantings of at least one acre, 2) timber stand improvement to enhance the production of quality hardwood timber, 3) wildlife habitat improvement projects, 4) wetland improvement projects, 5) forest road/trail conservation practices, 6) Control of exotic invasive forest plants .

Funding Source: Federal Farm Bill, U.S. Forest Service budget

Date of Inception: 2002

Target Lands/Owners: Private landowners with at least ten acres interested in land and forest stewardship.

Application process: Applications are available from Indiana Division of Forestry offices. The local IDNR, district forester visits the project site to determine project needs and develops recommendations based on the landowners' objectives. District forester also provides information on how to proceed with the project or how to hire a private forester to complete the work.

Has program been evaluated? How? The program is modeled after similar cost-share programs and is periodically evaluated by the U.S. Forest Service on how well State forest conservation goals are met.

Contact Person: Dan Shaver
Division of Forestry
402 West Washington, Rm 296 W
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Ph: (317) 232-4117
Fax: (317) 233-3863
e-mail: dshaver@dnr.state.in.us

Comments: Participants must have an approved Forest Stewardship plan and an approved

project application to be eligible for reimbursement.

Program: Incentive
Level: State

Information provided by: Dan Ernst, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry

Name of Program: Forest Stewardship Program

Purpose:

A technical assistance, grant and education program. Program provides "Challenge Grants" to individuals and organizations to sponsor programs and activities to help meet the State five-year Forest Stewardship goals. These are 50:50 matching grants.

The program provides some funds for educational materials, programs and projects undertaken by the Division of Forestry and cooperating entities.

Funding Source: Federal Farm Bill, U.S. Forest Service budget

Date of Inception: 1991

Target Lands/Owners:

- 1) Private landowners with at least ten acres interested in land and forest stewardship.
- 2) Conservation organizations and individuals involved in promoting forest stewardship may apply for the "Challenge Grants."

Application process:

- 1) District forester provides technical assistance to forest owners on the stewardship of their forest resources.
- 2) Grant applications are available from the IDNR, Division of Forestry at the address listed below. Grant applications are normally accepted September - December.

Has program been evaluated? How?

The program is modeled after similar cost-share programs and is periodically evaluated by the U.S. Forest Service on how well State forest conservation goals are met.

Contact Person: Dan Ernst
Division of Forestry
402 West Washington, Rm 296 W
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Ph: (317) 232-4101
Fax: (317) 233-3863
e-mail: d Ernst@dnr.state.in.us

Program: Incentive
Level: State

Information provided by: Dan Ernst, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry

Name of Program: Indiana Classified Forest Program

Purpose: To encourage the retention of forest land in Indiana for the benefits of timber production, watershed protection and other associated forest benefits. Participating landowners are granted a lowered tax assessment (\$1.00/acre assessed value), an annual newsletter and periodic woodland inspections by a professional forester in return for following program guidelines. Eligible lands must have at least 10 acres of contiguous forest. Information on the program can be obtained from the contact source listed below or the local District Forester.

Funding Source: State funded

Date of Inception: March 10, 1921

Target Lands/Owners: Native and/or planted forest lands at least ten acres in size

Application Process: Local district forester provides the initial forest inspection to determine eligibility. The four-page application includes a legal description of the forest prepared by a registered surveyor and signatures by the landowner, county assessor and the district forester. The annual application deadline is February 28.

Has program been evaluated? How? Evaluated by the Indiana legislative Sunset Committee in 1991 and, based on the program's merits, recommended program expansion- 10% annually.

Contact Person: Jack Nelson
Division of Forestry
402 West Washington, Rm 296 W
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Ph: (317) 232-4105
Fax: (317) 233-3863
e-mail: jnelson@dnr.state.in.us

Comments: July 2002 program participation: 7,800 parcels totaling 420,000 acres.

Program: Incentive
Level: State

Information provided by: Gwen White, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Soil Conservation

Name of Program: Lake and River Enhancement (LARE)

Purpose:

Legislation enacted by the Indiana General Assembly provides direction and funding for the State Soil Conservation Board to implement the LARE component of the T-by-2000 strategy. The LARE program provides technical and financial assistance to projects aimed at controlling sediment and nutrient inflows from agricultural sources and other land disturbing activities so as to forestall or reverse the impacts of such inflows and enhance continued use of Indiana's public access lakes or rivers. The program allows grant funds to be used for five basic purposes: 1) preliminary lake evaluations, 2) diagnostic/feasibility studies of lakes, 3) design of lake-related projects, 4) construction of lake-related projects, and 5) land treatment in lake or river watersheds. Projects can include wetland restoration or construction for control of sediment and nutrient inputs. In the first ten years of the program, LARE-funded activities have addressed water-quality issues in about 110 lakes. Land treatment projects are currently operating in 21 different lake and river watersheds in 28 counties across the State.

Funding Source: Direct cost-share funding derived from a five-dollar boat fee generates between \$800,000 and \$1 million per year, depending upon the number of registered boats. In addition, a designated portion from the cigarette tax funds administrative costs of the program. Cost-share funding is available for up to 90 percent of the total cost for a project. Generally, two to three times as much money is requested as is available.

Date of Inception: 1987 begun as "Lake Enhancement Program"; 1991 added "R"
Target Lands/Owners: Watersheds of public-access lakes and rivers

Application Process: IDNR staff solicit proposals each January for evaluation by the State Soil Conservation Board in July, which ranks proposals on a priority basis, and uses all available funds to award grants to the most viable and competitive projects.

Has program been evaluated? How?

Every dollar spent in prevention of sediment and nutrient control through watershed land treatment saves five dollars that would have been required to restore function to damaged ecological and production systems. Biological and chemical monitoring is incorporated into projects to determine whether sediment and nutrient inputs are effectively addressed by individual projects.

Contact Person: Jim Ray
402 W. Washington St., Rm W265, Indianapolis, IN 46204
Ph: (317) 233-3871
Fax: (317) 233-3882
e-mail: jim_ray_at_dnrlan@ima.isd.state.in.us

Program: Incentive
Level: Cooperative

Information provided by: John Bacone, IDNR Division of Nature Preserves

Name of Program: Natural Area Registry

Purpose:

The voluntary Registry program is designed to honor and recognize the owners of outstanding natural areas for their commitment to the survival of Indiana's natural heritage. It simply encourages the preservation of important natural lands in private ownership. This non-binding, non-regulatory program, awards certificates to landowners who have, through their willingness to protect a part of our common Hoosier heritage, earned the appreciation of all Indiana citizens. Registry property signs are also available for the landowner. The directions to a Registry area are not publicized; however, if the landowner wishes, the landowner's gesture can be publicized.

Funding Source:

Original funding from Lilly Endowment of Indianapolis. Current funding is from The IDNR Division of Nature Preserves.

Date of Inception: 1979

Target Lands/Owners:

A property must contain one or more of the following natural values: 1) habitat for plants or animals with declining population in Indiana, 2) plant communities characteristic of the native vegetation of Indiana, and 3) outstanding natural features such as virgin forests or bogs.

Application Process:

Most Registry sites have already been evaluated and identified. A Registry representative attempts to contact all landowners at these sites and give them the opportunity to voluntarily enter into the program.

Has program been evaluated? How?

This program was created jointly with The Nature Conservancy and Indiana's Department of Natural Resources. Property to be included into the Registry program is evaluated by Indiana's DNR.

Contact Person:	Mary McConnell	or	John Bacone
	The Nature Conservancy		Div. of Nature Preserves/IDNR
	1330 West 38th Street		402 W. Washington, W267
	Indianapolis, IN 46208		Indianapolis, IN 46204
	Ph: (317) 923-7547		Ph: (317) 232-4052
	Fax: (317) 923-7582		Fax: (317) 233-0133

Comments: Registration effectively encourages conservation of important natural lands in private or public ownership. By informing landowners of the uniqueness of particular sites, registration reduces the chance that significant natural values may be unwittingly destroyed. The same recognition will discourage others, such as governmental agencies and utilities, from disturbing the area. Landowners of Registry properties are asked to preserve and protect the area to the best of their abilities, to notify the Division of Nature Preserves or The Nature Conservancy of any threats to the area, such as pollution, right-of-way, drainage, and so on, and to also

notify of any intent to sell or transfer ownership of the property

Program: Incentive
Level: State

Information provided by: John Bacone, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Nature Preserves

Name of Program: State Nature Preserve Dedication

Purpose: In perpetuity protection of natural areas/ rare species habitats via "in perpetuity" conservation easement.

Funding Source: Not applicable (although DNR sometimes purchases land for nature preserves)

Date of Inception: 1967

Target Lands/Owners: High quality natural areas and rare species habitat, scattered throughout the State

Application Process: DNR staff inspect tracts to determine eligibility upon owner request. Owners of known natural areas are informed of the program and are asked about participation (voluntary).

Has program been evaluated? How? Sunset evaluation of DNR

Contact Person: John Bacone
Division of Nature Preserves
402 W. Washington, W267
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Ph: (317) 232-4052
Fax: (317) 233-0133

Program: Incentive
Level: State

Information provided by: Bill Maudlin, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Fish and Wildlife

Name of Program: Wildlife Habitat Cost-Share Project

Purpose: To encourage landowners to develop wildlife habitat by reducing the cost of its development through reimbursement for 90 percent of the cost of development of wildlife habitat or \$1,000, whichever is less.

Funding Source: Dedicated Fish and Wildlife Funds

Date of Inception:

Target Lands/Owners: Landowners of 10 acres or more wanting to develop permanent wildlife habitat, windbreaks, brushpiles, vegetation management, and wetland development.

Application Process: Contact District Wildlife Biologist or Indianapolis Office to discuss the wildlife habitat practices to be developed and complete an application.

Contact Person: Roger Neal
402 W. Washington St. W273
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Ph: (317) 232-4080
Fax: (317) 232-8150

Comments: Landowners are eligible for the Cost-Share program if: 1) they own or exercise control over 10 acres or more; 2) the land to be developed is not part of a commercial hunting preserve.

PRIVATE/LOCAL INCENTIVE PROGRAMS

Program: Incentive
Level: Private/Local
Focus Area Project

Name of Program: Blue River Project

Purpose: This project office was created to establish local involvement in the protection of the Blue River watershed. The goals of this project office are to work with local landowners, farmers, businesses and communities to effectively protect the Blue River watershed while maintaining economically practical and compatible uses of the land. Examples of the assistance available through this office are livestock fencing to protect existing riparian corridor, tree planting along the Indian Creek and Blue River riparian corridors, financial assistance in classifying stream and riverbanks (as Classified Riparian Land) and other incentive programs for landowners along the Blue River.

Funding Source: Geography of Hope Capital Campaign and private fund-raising.

Date of Inception: 1994

Target Lands/Owners: The watershed of the Blue River in southern Indiana

Application Process: Property/landowners must fall within the Blue River Watershed. Landowners can contact the Blue River office for more information.

Has program been evaluated? How? Quarterly reports to staff and scientists at the Indiana Field Office. Periodic reports to funders. (Reports on file in the Indiana Field Office.)

Contact Person: Allen Pursell, The Nature Conservancy
TNC Blue River Project Office
P.O. Box 5
Corydon, IN 47112
Ph: (812) 738-2087
Fax: (812)738-2087

Program: Incentive
Level: Private/Local

Information provided by: Dan Ernst, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry

Name of Program: Indiana Tree Farm

Purpose: Certification of sustainable forests and promotion stewardship of forest resources and recognition of forest landowners who are true and active stewards of their forests. The Indiana Tree Farm program also sponsors the "Outstanding Outdoor Laboratory of the Year" for Indiana schools and the "Outstanding Logger of the Year." These awards recognize high-achieving schools and loggers who demonstrate, practice and promote forest stewardship.

Funding Source: Indiana Hardwood Lumbermans Association, American Forest Foundation

Date of Inception: 1941 nationally; 1955 in Indiana

Target Lands/Owners: All landowners with at least 10 acres of forest land. Currently 70,000 members nationwide.

Application Process: To be recognized as a Tree Farmer the owner must be nominated or complete a nomination form describing his/her forest stewardship activities. Application must be attested and the forest inspected by an approved Tree Farm Inspector. There is no application fee.

Has program been evaluated? How? All Tree Farms are inspected every 5 years by a Tree Farm inspector (usually a professional forester) to recertify the stewardship activities and acknowledge a landowners eligibility for continued recognition as a Tree Farmer.

Contact Person: Bob Burke
2896 Centennial Rd.
Martinsville, IN 46151
Ph: (317) 342-3851

Comments: Certified Tree Farmers may subscribe to receive the *Tree Farm* magazine and the *Woodland Steward* publication. Both are well written educational publications containing many useful articles on a variety of subjects for the active

forest landowner.

Program: Incentive
Level: Private/Local

Name of Program: Southern Lake Michigan Rim

Purpose: The Southern Lake Michigan Rim Project Office was established to help focus resources towards protecting and managing the most important biodiversity sites along the southern shore of Lake Michigan in Lake, Porter and LaPorte Counties. With help from dedicated volunteers, interns and partners, incredible progress has been made towards reversing many of the threats at several of the finest natural areas.

Funding Source: Geography of Hope Capital Campaign, private fund-raising and other sources.

Date of Inception: 1992

Target Lands/Owners: Natural areas in Southern Lake Michigan Watershed

Application Process: For questions or more information about preserves in this area or the ongoing work, contact either Paul Labus or Mike Norris at the address below.

Contact Person: Paul Labus, Program Director
SOUTHERN LAKE MICHIGAN RIM PROJECT OFFICE
2400 New York Ave., Room 269
Calumet College of Saint Joseph
Whiting, IN 46394
Ph: (219) 473-4312
Fax: (219) 473-4312
Email: plabus@tnc.org

Program: Incentive
Level: Private/Local
Focus Area Project

Name of Program: Tippecanoe River Project

Purpose: This project office was created to establish local involvement in the protection of the Tippecanoe River watershed. The goals of this project office are to work with local landowners, Tippecanoe River farmers, businesses and communities to effectively protect the Tippecanoe River watershed while maintaining economically practical and compatible uses of the land. Examples of the assistance available through this office are livestock fencing to protect existing riparian corridor, tree planting along the Tippecanoe River riparian corridor, and other incentive programs for landowners along the Tippecanoe River. Part of project also includes monitoring of fish, mussels, and aquatic invertebrates in the river. The information gained from monitoring will give a good feel for the overall health of the Tippecanoe River.

Funding Source: Hoosier Landscapes: Saving Our Last Great Places Capital Campaign, private fund-raising and other sources.

Date of Inception: 2000

Target Lands/Owners: The watershed of Tippecanoe River in northern Indiana

Application Process: Property/landowners must fall within the Tippecanoe River Watershed.

Has program been evaluated? How? Quarterly reports to staff and scientists at the Indiana Field Office. Periodic reports to funders. (Reports on file in the Indiana Field Office.)

Contact Person: Chad Watts, Tippecanoe River Project Office
P.O. Box 69
Winamac, Indiana 46996
Phone: (574) 946-7491
Fax: (574) 946-7491

Program: Incentive
Level: Private/Local
Focus Area Project

Name of Program: Upper St. Joseph River Project

Purpose: This project office was created to establish local involvement in the protection of Upper St. Joseph River watershed. The goals of this project office are to work with local landowners, farmers, businesses and communities to effectively protect the watershed while maintaining economically practical and compatible uses of the land. Examples of the assistance available through this office are livestock fencing to protect existing riparian corridor, tree planting along the Upper St. Joseph River riparian corridor, conservation tillage adoption, and other incentive programs for landowners along the river.

Funding Source: Hoosier Landscapes: Saving Our Last Great Places Capital Campaign and private fund-raising

Date of Inception: 1992

Target Lands/Owners:

Since 1992 The Nature Conservancy has operated a Fish Creek Project Office. The Upper St. Joseph River Project is a natural expansion of the Conservancy's work in this region. The project area includes Fish Creek and the St. Joseph River upstream from Fish Creek. Recent surveys have identified the East Fork of the West Branch of the St. Joseph River as having a mussel community with near equal quality to that of Fish Creek. The total project area of the St. Joseph River is more than 350,000 acres. Initially The Nature Conservancy will focus its efforts on Fish Creek and the East Fork of the West Branch, reducing the project area to 105,000 acres.

Application Process: Property/landowners must fall within the project area. Landowners can contact the Upper St. Joseph River office for more information.

Has program been evaluated? How?

Quarterly reports to staff and scientists at the Indiana Field Office. Periodic reports to funders (Reports on file in the Indiana Field Office). We monitor land use changes such as adoption of conservation tillage and progress of the reforestation of the floodplain. The biological community, including insects, fish and mussels of the creek, is monitored on an annual basis to determine the effectiveness of the project.

Contact Person: Larry Clemens
The Nature Conservancy
Upper St. Joseph River Office
Peachtree Plaza, Suite G
1220 North 200 West
Angola, IN 46703
Ph: (219) 665-9141

Fax: (219) 665-9141

Program: Incentive
Level: Private/Local

Name of Program: Wildlife at Work

Purpose: To encourage the formation of volunteer employee wildlife management teams to implement, maintain, and monitor wildlife habitat projects on corporate lands.

Funding Source: Membership fees

Date of Inception: 1988

Target Lands/Owners: Corporate-owned lands

Application Process: Registration process

Has program been evaluated? How? Yes. A 1994-95 Duke study and a 1993 University of Michigan study (see attached)

Contact Person: Wildlife Habitat Council
1010 Wayne Avenue, Suite 920
Silver Spring, MD 20910
Ph: (301) 588-8994
Fax: (301) 588-4629
E-mail: whc@wildlifehc.com
Web site: www.wildlifehc.org

Comments: This program outlines a successful method for individual corporate sites to utilize when planning and implementing wildlife habitat projects, and when building community relations.

The Wildlife Habitat Council is committed to increasing the amount of quality wildlife habitat on corporate and private lands.